Public Hearing Testimony for the Judiciary Committee March 23, 2011

Robert Starr Torrington, Connecticut

Chairman Coleman, Chairman Fox, members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Robert Starr. I am a member of the Connecticut Citizen's Defense League, the United States Concealed Carry Association and the National Rifle Association of America. I am a lifelong resident of Torrington. I am here to speak in opposition to SB-1094 (AN ACT BANNING LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION MAGAZINES) and in support of SB-1210 (AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF DEADLY PHYSICAL FORCE TO DEFEND THE RESIDENTS OF A HOME).

Public safety will not be enhanced by a limit on magazine capacity. We need to be able to depend upon an effective screening process to prevent guns from getting into the wrong hands, but we must realize that the issue is not magazine capacity but criminal use of firearms. Making a new law limiting magazine capacity will not prevent criminals from using high capacity magazines because by definition criminals do not obey the law. It is sufficient in my view to prosecute offenders for the illegal use of firearms without taking this additional step which infringes upon the rights of law abiding gun owners. I urge the committee to oppose SB-1094 for these reasons.

SB-1210 appears to me to be an attempt to bring the statute into line with case law and as such I believe it is a good idea. Therefore I ask you to support it.

I thank the committee for allowing me to testify on these matters and for taking my views into consideration.

Sincerely

Robert Starr